

Remarks

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

In response to the election requirement in the outstanding Office Action, Group I is elected for examination with traverse. Group I includes claims 1-24.

The Office Action states that some of the steps can be performed at different times, thus making a "materially different method from claim 25." This statement is incorrect. Claim 25 does NOT set out any order of those steps. In other words, claim 25 covers both methods as described in the present Office Action. Therefore, this restriction requirement is improper.

The Species election requirement is still not understood. The Office Action refers to features of claims 1 and 14 as if they are mutually distinct. They are not. In other words, claims 1 and 14 cover Figure 4A. Thus, this requirement is improper and traversed. Yet Species I (claims 1-13) is elected for examination.

Conclusion

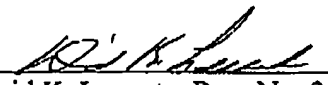
This Reply is believed to be responsive to all points raised in the Office action. Accordingly, prompt allowance and passage of the application to issue are earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, he/she is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Seagate Technology LLC
(Assignee of the Entire Interest)

Date

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